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## IDAHO ARTS CHARTER SCHOOL RECEIVES 2011 CHARTER STARS AWARD

BOISE – Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna today presented Idaho Arts Charter School in Nampa with the 2011 Charter Stars Award, which recognizes high-performing public charter schools in Idaho.

“I am honored to recognize the success of one of Idaho’s great public schools,” Superintendent Luna said. “Idaho Arts Charter School deserves this award for its high academic achievement and ongoing commitment to serving the local community.”

The Charter Stars Award recognizes a public charter school each year that demonstrates success in academics, financial management, leadership and governance. As part of the award, the school receives \$1,000, funded through Idaho’s federal Charter School Program grant.

This is the second annual Charter Stars Award. Anser Charter School in Boise received the first award in 2010.

The criteria for receiving the Charter Stars award include:

- School leadership,
- Innovative programs,
- Service learning,
- Parent involvement, and
- Student achievement results based on Adequate Yearly Progress.

Idaho Arts Charter School, which opened in 2005, has met or exceeded each of these criteria.

Not only have students at Idaho Arts Charter School excelled academically, but they also are active in the community. The school created a community garden to help feed low-income families in the community and organized an “empty bowl” fundraiser to benefit local food banks.

Through a federal Charter School Dissemination Grant, Idaho Arts Charter School also has shared its best practices and successes with other public charter schools and traditional public schools.

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